

We all make our contributions in the world, and I suppose mine will not be to the literary treasures of the Western Civilization. [Laughter] But I do hope to contribute in my own way. And one of those ways is to bring closer the day when every child and every American learns to read. And that is why the budget I submitted to the United States Congress triples the amount of money available for reading programs all across America.

I'm proud of mother. She took up the cause more than a decade ago. And she didn't leave it behind in the White House. Through her efforts and the efforts of all who have helped the Barbara Bush Foundation, so many lives have been enriched with new opportunities.

We heard Norma Vargas beautifully describe the good that has come into her life since she has found the courage to walk into that San Jose classroom to begin her first lesson. Tens of thousands more have their own stories. Stories of people finding new and better jobs, and gaining a new sense of dignity, because now they can read.

And I'm proud that Laura has her own commitment to education. She was a teacher when I met her. In her own way, she will always be a teacher. She's the best kind of teacher, too, the kind who leaves no one out and believes in the possibilities of every person.

That's the spirit of your cause and ours. I thank each of you for all you have contributed. It will be repaid many times over in lives of new achievement and lives of new hope.

Thank you, and God bless.

NOTE: The President spoke at 7:04 p.m. at the Wortham Theater Center. The transcript released by the Office of the Press Secretary also included the remarks of former President George Bush, former First Lady Barbara Bush, First Lady Laura Bush, and former Prime Minister John Major of the United Kingdom.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

#### **April 22**

In the evening, the President returned from Quebec, Canada, to Washington, DC.

#### **April 23**

The President announced his intention to nominate Donald J. McConnell to be Ambassador to Eritrea.

The President announced his intention to nominate Stephen A. Cambone to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

The President announced his intention to nominate Donald Cameron Findlay to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

The President announced his intention to nominate Lori A. Forman to be Assistant Administrator for the U.S. Agency for International Development for Asia and the Near East.

The White House announced that the President invited President Jorge Batlle of Uruguay to the White House on April 24.

#### **April 24**

The President announced his intention to nominate Richard Henry Jones to be Ambassador to Kuwait.

The President announced his intention to nominate James G. Roche to be Secretary of the Air Force.

The President announced his intention to nominate Thomas E. White to be Secretary of the Army.

The President announced his intention to nominate Gordon England to be Secretary of the Navy.

#### **April 25**

In the afternoon, the President traveled to New Orleans, LA, and later, he traveled to Little Rock, AR.

In the evening, the President traveled to Crawford, TX.

The President announced his intention to nominate Bonnie McElveen-Hunter to be Ambassador to Finland.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jacob Lozada to be Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Human Resources and Administration.

The President announced his intention to nominate Eugene Scalia to be Solicitor of the Department of Labor.

The President announced his intention to nominate Charles J. Swindells to be Ambassador to New Zealand.

The President announced his intention to nominate Stuart Bernstein to be Ambassador to Denmark.

The President announced his intention to nominate George L. Argyros to be Ambassador to Spain and Andorra.

#### **April 26**

In the morning, the President had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Houston, TX, and in the evening, he returned to Crawford, TX.

The President announced his intention to nominate Stephen L. Johnson to be Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency for Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances.

The White House announced that the President will meet with President Moshe Katsav of Israel for a working visit on May 30.

The President announced his intention to nominate Mercer Reynolds to be Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

#### **April 27**

In the morning, the President traveled to Austin, TX, and in the afternoon, he returned to Crawford, TX.

The President announced his intention to nominate C. David Welch to be Ambassador to Egypt.

The President announced his intention to nominate Michael K. Powell to be a Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to serve as members of the Commission on Presidential Scholars: Bruno V. Manno; Robert Lewis King; Jennifer Sandra Carroll; Lynne Ann Munson; Lawrence Richard Bearden; Mo-

desto A. Maidique; Mary Katherine Turner; Paul Gust Vallas; Theodore Martin Hesburgh; Flo N. Traywick; Michele M. Ridge; Virginia Sue Hoffa; Marcia Jackson; Manuel Lujan, Jr.; Elizabeth K. Johnson; Mary Kramer; Linda Richey Graves; Louis Wade Sullivan; Jean Loretta Becker; Nancy Ann Hunt; Stanley E. Taylor; Shirley Miller; Glen Thomas Becerra; and Williamson Evers.

The President announced his intention to nominate James W. Ziglar to be Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization.

The President declared a major disaster in Kansas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, hail, flooding, and tornadoes beginning on April 21 and continuing.

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### **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

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#### **Submitted April 23**

Edward C. Aldridge, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, vice Jacques Gansler.

Peter F. Allgeier, of Virginia, to be a Deputy U.S. Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, vice Richard W. Fisher, resigned.

Bruce Marshall Carnes, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Energy, vice Michael Telson, resigned.

Maureen Patricia Cragin, of Maine, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Public and Intergovernmental Affairs), vice John T. Hanson, resigned.